

Department of Community and Human Services

2005 Annual Report



King County

Department of Community and Human Services Mission

To enhance the quality of life, protect rights, and promote the self-sufficiency of our region's diverse individuals, families, and communities.

Service Priorities

In 2005, the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) identified three areas for special focus: homelessness, justice system alternatives and employment.

Very often, people seeking assistance in one of these arenas needs help in one or more of the others. Many people are homeless because they have limited education, few job skills and are unable to find living wage jobs. Others are homeless because they lack the necessary treatment and supportive services they need to stabilize their lives. Many people at risk of involvement in the justice system have dropped out of school, have little or no work experience, and the lack of income and employment opportunities leads to homelessness and sometimes, criminal activity. All present barriers to successful lives.

Tackling each of these priorities in ways that are coordinated, collaborative, innovative, creative and effective is the goal of DCHS. Throughout this report are examples of programs and services working to help people find decent jobs and affordable homes, access treatment services, and to reach for a better future. Also throughout this report are stories of challenge and personal success – men and women who have surmounted poverty, homelessness, unemployment, addictions, and disabilities to move their lives forward in ways that are moving and inspirational. We thank them for being willing to share their journeys in this report.



Message from Ron Sims, County Executive

I am pleased to present the 2005 Annual Report of the King County Department of Community and Human Services.

Each and every day, the department and their many community providers reach out to help individuals and families achieve and maintain healthier and more independent lives. I am especially proud of their efforts to:



- ✱ Create decent, affordable housing for individuals and families, the homeless, seniors, and those with special needs. Working with many regional partners, King County is providing leadership to the implementation of the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County and striving to build the housing and supportive services that will help us to truly end homelessness in our region.
- ✱ Create job training and employment opportunities for low-income and disadvantaged youth and adults and people with disabilities. Our programs are helping at-risk youth stay in school or earn a GED, while also preparing them for higher education or living wage jobs. Work training programs are helping adults gain marketable skills and new options. Specialized programs for people living with disabilities are not just opening doors for employment but creating more meaningful and productive lives.
- ✱ Develop alternatives to detention and incarceration for high risk youth and adults. These programs are creating stronger connections to the treatment services and other supports that many in our justice system need to regain control of their lives and hope for the future.

I commend the Department of Community and Human Services, and the entire human services community, for their commitment to creating innovative and effective programs that are not just helping vulnerable individuals achieve a better chance for health and success, but also improving and strengthening the quality of life in all our communities.

Sincerely,

Letter from Jackie MacLean, Director

The Department of Community and Human Services coordinates a wide range of regional programs and services to help low-income individuals, families and people with special needs lead healthier lives. We strive to make the best use of resources for the best possible outcomes, and partnerships are a key to our success.



Key events we experienced in 2005:

- Approval of a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County
- Passage of the 2005 King County Veterans and Human Services Levy
- Passage of the state Homeless Housing and Assistance Act and additional much-needed mental health funding
- Grand openings of several innovative supportive housing projects
- Publication of the Elements of Successful Programs to improve services for justice involved youth.
- Completion of a Mental Health Recovery Plan and kick-off of the Developmental Disabilities Working Age Adult Policy, both of which help people with disabilities achieve and maintain greater independence and more productive lives.
- In partnership with the faith community, the state, the City of Seattle, the Urban League and others, DCHS offered help to those who moved here in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.
- Began comprehensive planning for continuity of business functions in the event of a pandemic flu.

2006 will offer many challenges, but also opportunities. We are grateful to the voters of King County for approving the Veterans and Human Services Levy last fall, and we are working now to determine how best to use those funds to expand and enhance programs and services for veterans, their families and others in need. We will continue efforts to create housing and supportive services to more effectively address homelessness. We will continue efforts to improve linkages to mental health and substance abuse services for those in the justice system. We will advocate with state and federal governments for adequate funding for housing, employment and treatment services. We will seek best and promising practices in all areas of business.

I am proud to present this 2005 Annual Report, celebrating the accomplishments we share with our many regional partners. Thank you for your support.

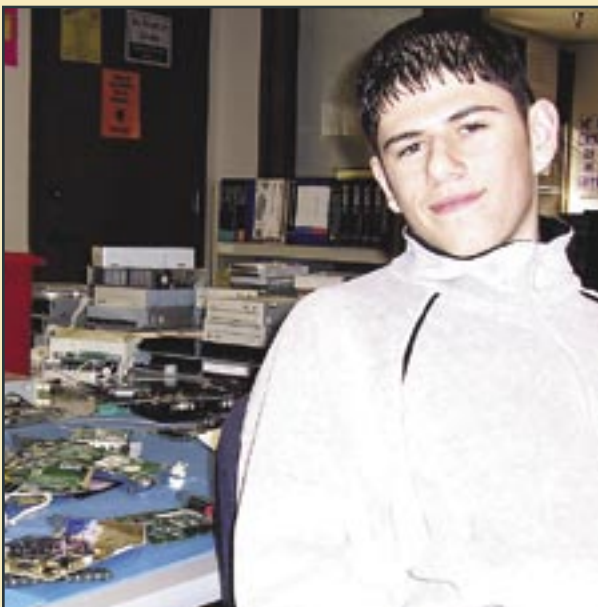
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jackie MacLean". The signature is fluid and cursive.



Willie - Willie enrolled in the Digital Bridge Technology Academy and finished his Cisco A+ training in October 2005. From there he went on to complete a technology internship at the Cobalt Corporation and, after only two weeks of the subsidized internship, his employer was so impressed with him and his technical skills that they offered to pick up the other half of Willie's day, bringing him to a 40-hour week. Willie has overcome many obstacles to success over the past year. His personality and contagious enthusiasm for life positively affect all those around him.

Giny - As a young mother of two toddlers, Giny is an incredibly busy person and consistently overcomes every barrier to success that she encounters. A diligent student, she completed her GED and then graduated from the Digital Bridge Cisco A+ program. She began an internship at Kent Station, which turned into an unsubsidized part-time job thanks to her strong technology skills. Digital Bridge has supported and guided her through the process of applying to college and applying for financial aid. As a result, she has enrolled fulltime at community college for the summer quarter.



Jourdan - Jourdan took the Digital Bridge Cisco A+ class at Renton YouthSource. When he began the class he was a shy, quiet student, unsure of himself and his potential, but during the first few days of class, Jourdan slowly opened up. As the curriculum began to evolve towards more challenging subject matter, Jourdan began to thrive. He rarely missed a day of class, usually was one of the first students to ask questions, and engaged the instructors with follow up comments and questions. Jourdan graduated with a cumulative score on all classroom exams above 90%. Upon graduation, Jourdan was offered a technology internship at REI headquarters in Kent where he works in Information Systems.

Department of Community and Human Services - Introduction

The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS), either directly or via contracts with community-based agencies, provides a broad array of services to help low-income and special needs residents of King County. These programs and services include: affordable housing development, community improvements, crisis response, mental health and substance abuse treatment, indigent defense services, education and work training programs, youth and family services, vocational and job placement services, early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays, employment and family support services for people with developmental disabilities, information and referral services, emergency shelter and legal aid to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, homeless prevention services, home repair assistance for seniors and low-income or disabled people, veterans services, and violence and substance abuse community prevention programs.



Administration

DCHS is responsible for strategic planning, policy implementation, fiscal management, contract oversight, and provision of care for the majority of King County's housing and human service programs. It has a budget of over \$235 million and a staff of about 400.

Sustaining the foundation and coordination of the regional human services system is one of the department's primary responsibilities. The county's partners include city, state and federal governments; public and private service providers; businesses and employers; United Way of King County and other foundations; housing developers; faith communities; criminal justice; schools; and many others.

The King County Regional Support Network, managed by DCHS, coordinates the publicly-funded mental health system and provides, either directly or via agency contracts a range of crisis, inpatient and outpatient services. DCHS coordinates chemical dependency inpatient and outpatient services, and the department also manages a significant portion of the state's funding and services for people with developmental disabilities and their families, with a particular focus on children ages birth to three and adults seeking employment.

Volunteers share breakfast after participating in the annual street count of homeless people.

Responsibility for the county's public defense system and ensuring that low-income residents faced with criminal charges have access to a legal defense regardless to their ability to pay also rests with DCHS and its Office of the Public Defender (OPD), one of the largest public defense agencies in the nation.

A new administrative responsibility taken on in 2005 was providing coordination for the Committee to End Homelessness in King County (CEHKC) and leadership in the implementation of the CEHKC Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. DCHS staff oversee and coordinate

the committee's efforts, working with the many regional partners that are dedicated to the goals and objectives of the Ten-Year Plan.

In addition to its regional responsibilities, King County also serves as the local government for the 360,000 residents of its unincorporated areas. DCHS serves an important role in that effort, providing staff support to the six recognized unincorporated area councils and offering an important link between those communities and county government.

Finance

DCHS managed a total 2005 budget of over \$235 million from multiple sources, including the federal government, the state of Washington, King County, local cities, and public/private foundations. The department works hard to leverage county dollars with other funds. In fact, for every dollar that DCHS

	Current Expense/ Children & Family Set Aside	Criminal Justice	Dedicated Property Tax	State/ Federal/ Grant/ Other *	2005 Total Revenues
Community Services	\$ 15,974,163		\$ 2,182,976	\$ 38,195,180	\$ 56,252,319
Community Services	\$ 12,543,781				\$ 12,543,781
Housing Opportunity Fund	\$ 1,693,879			\$ 4,278,778	\$ 5,972,657
Fed Housing/Community Dev				\$ 20,611,473	\$ 20,611,473
Work Training Programs	\$ 1,636,503			\$ 6,082,176	\$ 7,718,679
Dislocated Worker Program				\$ 6,922,753	\$ 6,922,753
Veterans' Program			\$ 2,182,976	\$ 300,000	\$ 2,482,976
Developmental Disabilities			\$ 1,968,106	\$ 17,976,109	\$ 19,944,215
DCHS Administration	\$ 698,932			\$ 1,037,966	\$ 1,736,898
Mental Health/Substance Abuse	\$ 4,364,428	\$ 375,990	\$ 2,449,911	\$ 117,873,312	\$ 125,063,641
Mental Health	\$ 1,378,236	\$ 245,990	\$ 2,449,911	\$ 97,421,822	\$ 101,495,959
Alcohol/Chemical Abuse	\$ 2,986,192	\$ 130,000		\$ 20,451,490	\$ 23,567,682
Human Services Sub-Total	\$ 20,937,523	\$ 375,990	\$ 6,600,993	\$ 175,082,567	\$ 202,997,073
Office of the Public Defender	\$ 29,246,642			\$ 3,304,910	\$ 32,551,552
DCHS TOTAL	\$ 50,184,165	\$ 375,990	\$ 6,600,993	\$ 178,387,477	\$ 235,548,625

* Other sources of funding include fees, fund balance, contributions from others funds, and interest income.

devoted to human services in 2005, the department was able to obtain an additional \$6.42 from external sources. Over 80 percent of all funds are contracted to community-based agencies for services; 13 percent supports direct services provided by DCHS staff; and the remaining seven percent funds department administration.

The chart above shows the fund sources that supported DCHS programs and services in 2005.

REGIONAL EFFORTS

Committee to End Homelessness in King County

On any given night in King County, more than 8,000 individuals are living in temporary housing, shelters or on the street. This total includes single adults, youth, and

bridge gaps, blend funds, combine resources, embrace best and promising practices, and create innovation. The priorities are to: 1) prevent homelessness where possible; 2) create permanent housing and the supportive services needed to stabilize and maintain individuals in their homes; and 3) build the political and community will to believe ending homelessness is possible.

Responsibility for hosting the CEHKC was delegated to King County and to DCHS. With funding jointly provided by King County, the City of Seattle and United Way of King County, a project director and a project manager coordinate the committee work, oversee projects and communications, and maintain a Web page at www.cehkc.org. A progress report summarizing the efforts and achievements of the "launch" year is available on the CEHKC Web.

Healthy Families and Communities Task Force

In 2003, King County Executive Ron Sims convened a task force to study the regional human service system and develop a strategic plan for stabilizing the safety net for the future. That group published its report in 2004, finding that there was a significant un-met need for regional services and a serious shortfall in funding to meet that need. They called for a second body to be convened to build upon their work.

Looking to take the next steps in stabilizing regional human services for the future, King County Executive Ron Sims convened a 17-member citizen task force in 2005, called the Healthy Families and Communities (HFC) Task Force. Co-chaired by King County Councilmember Larry Gossett and Renton Mayor Kathy Keolker, the HFC began its work in July 2005. They were tasked to determine the amount of financing needed to address the un-met need for regional human services and a mechanism to achieve that funding. They were charged with developing the membership and roles of a new regional human services board to administer the new funding, and were also asked to develop a public education plan to educate and inform the community about the importance and value of human services to the health and safety of all families and communities in King County. The HFC report will be published in 2006.



Volunteers prepare a meal for homeless women at Angeline's Center (YWCA).

many families with children. Despite earnest efforts by many over a period of several years, the region had been unsuccessful in reducing those numbers.

It was time for a new focus and a new approach. A dedicated group of people representing government, business, faith communities, social services, philanthropy, homeless people and advocates developed a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County, published in March 2005 and established the Committee to End Homeless in King County (CEHKC).

The CEHKC officially kicked off its activities with the convening of its Governing Board in July 2005, co-chaired by Dan Brettler, CEO of Car Toys, Inc. and King County Executive Ron Sims. An Interagency Council and a Consumer Advisory Council also formed in 2005.

This is not business as usual, but is, instead, an effort to

Third Runway Café and Catering - The Third Runway Café and Catering Company, a recipient of a King County Consumer Pilot Project grant, opened to provide on and off site catering in July 2004. The staff includes six paid peers (consumers) and 12 volunteer peers (consumers) who are gaining valuable food service, barista and catering experience at two job sites, the Third Runway Café on the Burien campus of Highline-West Seattle Mental Health and Positively Espresso on the West Seattle campus. Clients include King County, the City of Burien City Council, Washington State Mental Health Transformation Project, Highline-West Seattle Board of Directors, Transitional Resources, Hazel Valley Parent Teacher Association, Friendship Adventures and multiple private caterings. For more information on Third Runway Catering call Maria Marez, Café Manager at 206-439-2593.



Third Runway staff set up delicious fare for the 2005 King County Exemplary Service Awards.

Serena - Serena (not her real name) is a 22-year old Hispanic female with a seven-year history of heroin and cocaine addiction, as well as a history of possession, distribution and solicitation. At one point in her addiction, she held a gun to a baby's head demanding money and drugs from the father. Determined to make a change before she gave birth to her own child, Serena threw out her drugs and paraphernalia. Told at delivery that she might lose custody of her child, she followed through on her treatment plan and has been clean and sober ever since. She participated for 12 months in Project START, a co-occurring disorders (COD) treatment program at Seattle Mental Health and is active in Drug Court. She is helping others in their recovery. Serena lives in a two-bedroom apartment with her baby and the baby's father thanks to the county-funded COD program. She returned to school in fall 2005 to get a GED and prepare for employment.

Joan - Joan was a rough, tough woman when she came out of jail. Her children were in foster care and she had been in and out of jail several times in the past year. She lived in a YWCA Women Out of Corrections room for several months before moving into permanent housing at the YWCA Women's Residence. She worked diligently at meeting her court requirements, including regular drug testing and other obligations. Her case manager helped her to navigate the systems she needed to work through to meet her ultimate goal: custody of her children. After several months of clean drug tests, Joan was allowed to host her children for overnight stays and soon was approved to regain custody. She moved to an apartment in one of the YWCA buildings so she could have her children with her, and she worked hard to maintain stability. She got a good job, enrolled her children in school, and started to lose that tough exterior. Not long after she gained custody, she received a Section 8 housing voucher and was able to move to a larger apartment with plenty of room for her children to play. She keeps in touch with the YWCA.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

The Community Services Division provides a wide range of services that seek to improve the lives of vulnerable children and at-risk youth, the elderly, the homeless and those at risk of homelessness, survivors of abuse, veterans, low-income individuals and neighborhoods, and people needing education and job training to be more employable for the future.

In 2005, the Community Services Division focused considerable energy on its juvenile justice efforts, with the completion and implementation of the Elements of Successful Programs guidebook and assessment tool, designed to share information on the programs and services having the most positive results in reducing recidivism. Training and technical assistance are helping local agencies to incorporate those elements into their programs and services.

Aging Program agencies helped 20,962 older adults age 55 or older maintain their independence through adult day health services, information and referral, exercise and social activities, transportation, and a range of other services and supports. In addition, 560 volunteers were trained and 380 adult day health staff received education assistance.

Community Organizing Program worked with neighborhoods to create safe and drug-free communities through technical assistance and mini-grants. They awarded \$82,628 in grants to mobilize substance abuse and violence prevention programs and involved more than 23,857 residents in activities sponsored and facilitated by the program. As co-convenor of the King County Meth Action Team they are working to fight the problem of methamphetamine production and use.

Housing and Community Development

King County works closely with developers, financial institutions, housing authorities, city, state and federal governments, community groups, nonprofits and the faith community to build or preserve safe, affordable and special needs housing, end homelessness, and improve the livability of low-income or depressed neighborhoods. The King County Housing Consortium worked toward three goals in 2005:

- ✱ Create decent, affordable housing – A total of 637 units of new affordable rental housing were funded, including 403 units for very low-income households and 325 for households with special needs (homeless, persons with disabilities and the elderly). A total of 33 units



YouthBuild students and Habitat for Humanity join together to build low-income housing.

of new ownership affordable housing were funded, and 500 homes owned by very low to moderate-income households were repaired or improved.

- ✱ End homelessness – A total of 442 households received homeless prevention services; 487 permanent supportive housing units were provided for homeless households with a history of mental illness, chemical dependency and/or AIDS; 150,515 bed nights of emergency shelter were provided to offer warmth and safety from the elements; and 172,792 bed nights of transitional housing helped to increase the stability of homeless households.
- ✱ Provide suitable living environments and economic opportunities for low to moderate income communities – Three human service facility projects, including the Salvation Army Food Bank in Renton, were completed and an additional six were funded for 2006 completion. Six public infrastructure improvement projects were completed in low-income communities and another five were funded for 2006. 160,708 people received essential services such as food, clothing, emergency services, child care, job training, and other help.

Veterans' Program assisted approximately 2,570 low-income veterans and their families during 2005 with financial aid, mental health and trauma counseling, short and long-term housing, vocational and employment assistance, and other supports. The Veterans' Incarcerated Project (VIP) is a national model for jail intervention services, with a recidivism rate of less than 20% compared to the state average of about 60%. The VIP enrolled and served 162 local vets in 2005, providing housing, treatment and other supports upon discharge from jail.

Women's Program provided 7,060 individual service contacts to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault to aid connections to crisis intervention, referral services, counseling, legal advocacy, emergency shelter and transitional housing. King County has one of the most comprehensive domestic violence delivery systems in the state, thanks to its regional partnerships. The Women's Program helped sponsor a successful rally and community resource fair at Westlake Mall in Seattle.

Youth and Family Service Agencies helped 152,514 at-risk and juvenile justice involved youth reconnect to school and family through school-based case management, gang intervention, individual and family counseling, drug prevention, parenting classes, drug and alcohol treatment and support groups, employment and education programs.

Work Training Programs for At-Risk Youth – Through partnerships with community agencies, schools, business, and local cities the Work Training Program provides education and



(Above) Salvation Army offers a demonstration kitchen that shows how to use food bank items in nutritious meals.

(Below) Domestic Violence rally honors outstanding law enforcement officers. From left: Executive Ron Sims; honoree officer Mark Brown, Kirkland Police Department; honoree Det. Jim Belefond, King County Sheriff's Office; Sheriff Sue Rahr; and King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng.



(Below) Opportunity Skyway student works on his plane.





Executive Ron Sims congratulates King County Jobs Initiative participant.

job training services to help high risk youth get their lives on track toward more hopeful futures. Work Training provided services to over 1,300 young people in 2005. They offer a range of innovative and successful programs to help low-income and juvenile justice involved youth at learning center sites across the county, including YouthSource, which is the largest comprehensive youth education and employment program in the state. YouthSource offers programs like the nationally recognized YouthBuild, Digital Bridge Technology Academy, and Opportunity Skyway – all of which combine classroom assistance with high school credit retrieval or completion of a GED with focused employment training in construction, computer technology or aviation. New Start in White Center, a community intervention program aimed to engage and help juvenile justice and gang-involved youth served 177 youth in 2005.

Dislocated Worker Program provided employment training and counseling to over 1,700 adult workers in 2005, offering a comprehensive re-employment program for adults who have lost their jobs through plant closures or downsizing. The program helps clients learn new job skills and prepare for career changes in line with the community's employment needs. It has an 86 percent job placement rate.

WorkSource Renton is the largest “one-stop” employment center in Washington, recognized for innovative employment services and strong employment networks. More than 80,000 customers walked through the WorkSource Renton doors in 2005 where they can access career counselors and job developers, a computer center, and a variety of other services for both employers and prospective employees.

King County Jobs Initiative (KCJI) builds careers and financial independence for low-income residents of south King County, White Center and West Hill. KCJI is known for its strong retention rates (over 97 percent) and living wage jobs (average 2005 wage was \$12.50 an hour plus benefits). KCJI served 227 clients in 2005. Almost two-thirds of participants are ethnic minorities. For the past six years, KCJI has received an EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant and is regarded as one of the top programs nationally.

Merit - Merit settled in White Center in 2002, having left his native Ethiopia because of civil unrest. In 2004, he enrolled in the King County Jobs Initiative program and after completing truck driver instruction at South Central Community College, his wages advanced to \$22 an hour. A year later, he had saved enough money to purchase his own truck and is now an independent driver with projected earnings of about \$90,000 a year. “My life has totally changed since becoming a part of the King County Jobs Initiative,” says Merit.

UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCILS

King County serves as the local government for the residents of the unincorporated areas - the rural and urban areas of the county not included in the boundaries of any city. Unincorporated Area Councils (UACs) were created in 1995 to improve communication between county government and the residents of the unincorporated areas. Each council is a volunteer organization with a board elected by the residents of the area.

King County has officially recognized six UACs:

- Four Creeks Unincorporated Area Council
- Greater Maple Valley Area Council
- North Highline Unincorporated Area Council
- Upper Bear Creek Community Council
- Vashon-Maury Island Community Council
- West Hill Community Council



Dick Bonewits of Greater Maple Valley Area Council welcomes attendees to the 2005 Joint Annual Forum.

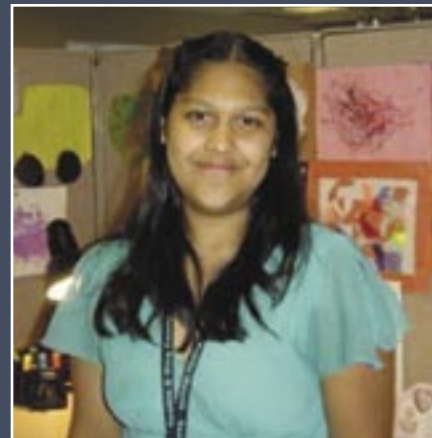
DCHS Community Service Representatives serve as liaisons between the unincorporated area councils and county government. Staff attends community meetings, arranges for briefings on a wide variety of issues, and provides other support and assistance as needed.

An annual joint meeting and community forum is held each year to bring together the leadership of all six UACs and the residents of the county's unincorporated areas to meet with the county and discuss issues of interest and concern. The annual forum is one of many ways the county works to gather and share information with residents of these communities.

Zakariya - Zakariya was released from detention and uncertain about his options when he heard about the King County Work Training Program through a referral system within King County Superior Court. Zakariya enrolled and received education services, work readiness skills and youth development opportunities. Staff from Work Training and Superior Court provided case coordination to remove barriers to his education and employment goals. Zakariya has since earned his GED, enrolled in post-secondary studies at South Central Community College and is balancing a part-time job in his busy schedule. He has completed two quarters of community college and plans to receive an AA degree and transfer to a local university. "I'm amazed with everything I've accomplished this year," says Zakariya.



Judissa - Judissa has confronted many challenges in her life. Married at age 17 and a mother at 19, she and her husband have faced housing and health crises but have now settled in permanent low-income housing in Bellevue. Judissa's husband survived serious abdominal surgery and was out of work for two months. They got by with help from local food banks. Judissa enrolled in the King County Work Training Program and working hard, she attained her GED at Bellevue Community College and a medical



assistant certificate from Lake Washington Technical Institute. She has worked for the King County District Court in Issaquah and more recently with Public Health-Seattle & King County, earning \$11.25 per hour. She starts nursing school in the fall and continues to conquer whatever life throws at her with a smile and determination.



Mary

Mary (not her real name) and her youngest daughter were one of the first families to move into The Willows, a program operated by Community Psychiatric Clinic that opened in 2005. Mary had just completed an inpatient drug treatment program, and like many coming out of inpatient treatment, was at high risk of relapsing and being homeless again - an outcome that would have been disastrous for her newborn daughter. Mary had been living on the streets for three years, has a history of severe major depression and previous addiction to heroine, cocaine, meth and alcohol. The courts had removed an older daughter from her custody. Entering The Willows program, Mary was resistant. She participated minimally in treatment, experienced difficulties with her hygiene, had numerous housemate conflicts, had few life skills and fewer parenting skills.

That has all since changed. Mary has maintained her sobriety for over a year and a half. Her depression has stabilized and she has made so much progress with her own life and her parenting skills that the courts allowed her to regain custody of her eldest daughter. She is working to earn her GED so she can pursue her goal of becoming a dental assistant and plans to move into independent housing soon. Mary says, "Willows helped me stay clean and sober...helped me raise my kids and be a better mother. Willows helped me to continue treatment...gave me support and helped me build my outside support network. Staff is really supportive. When I need help, they're there."

The Willows (background) provides the supports, services, patience and partnership in recovery necessary for women like Mary to reclaim their lives and provide hope for their children.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION

Ensuring access to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and creating opportunities for employment in adulthood are just two ways that the Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) is helping to make a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Birth to Three Early Intervention Services: For children with special needs under the age of three, DDD contracts with agencies countywide to provide a range of child development and therapy services. Early intervention services are designed to fit into the child and family's daily activities and routines. Services may occur in the home, child care center or other community settings. In 2005, birth to three services were provided to 1,766 children. Also in 2005, DDD successfully negotiated with the Kent and Seattle public school districts to partner in the delivery of services for infants and toddlers in those districts.

Supported Employment: King County is proud to be a national leader in creating supported employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, thanks to a strong network of dedicated employment provider agencies and community employers across the region. In 2005, King County assisted 906 people to achieve and maintain individual supported employment in a wide range of industries. Another 834 people were served in prevocational training, group supported employment, and community access programs. To help transition young people from school to adult life and employment, DDD entered into working agreements with 12 school districts to improve outcomes for graduating students.

In October 2005, King County officially kicked off implementation of the state-mandated Working Age Adult Policy, which challenges each county to work harder to engage and serve people with developmental disabilities in work-related services and planning. The goal is to help every person of working age to achieve skills training and employment opportunities in the community. DDD is committed to working with its partners to achieve this goal.

Family Support: Working with the Arc of King County, the King County Parent Coalition and local agencies and partners, DDD provides ongoing training, education, recreation, support groups, information and referral. Services also include assistance accessing transportation, consumer and family advocacy and legislative advocacy. For the 16th straight year, the Parent Coalition and the King County Board for Developmental Disabilities joined

to sponsor a legislative forum that drew more than 30 legislators and over 550 residents to discuss the issues of greatest concern to the developmental disabilities community.

Housing Support: DDD provides coordination and referral to affordable housing and in 2005, worked with the King County Housing Authority to help 48 people obtain Section 8 vouchers for housing. DDD also provides funding to create new housing units for people with developmental disabilities, all of which incorporate the concepts of Universal Design. In 2005, DDD funded 10 units in three projects that will provide affordable and accessible housing for people with developmental disabilities for 40 years. Also in 2005, DDD created an Emergency Housing Assistance Program with the goal of preventing homelessness by providing one-time housing and utility assistance. The new program helped 33 households with an average award of \$586 per household.



Parents and their children attend the 16th annual legislative forum.

MENTAL HEALTH, CHEMICAL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCY SERVICES DIVISION

The Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division (MHCADSD) is responsible for managing both the state-funded mental health service system as well as the publicly funded alcohol and drug treatment system. The majority of treatment services are provided through contracts with community-based mental health centers and/or substance abuse treatment agencies. Direct services to county residents provided by county staff include 24-hour mental health crisis outreach and investigation for involuntary commitment or hospitalization, mental health client services, public inebriate outreach and triage, and investigation for involuntary detention under state chemical abuse statutes.

Mental health services include individual, group and family therapy; case management; crisis intervention; vocational and employment services; medication management; and assistance with housing and other supports. Mental health services were provided to 35,845 people, including 10,501 children, 20,851 adults and 4,493 older adults - a 2.7 percent increase over 2003-2005. More than 90 percent of those served were enrolled in Medicaid. Symptoms and functioning were maintained or improved for over three-quarters of clients by the end of their service period.

Crisis outreach and involuntary treatment services are provided by Designated Mental Health Professionals (DMHPs). In 2005, initial crisis outreach by DMHPs increased by 2.6 percent, DMHPs conducted 5,530 evaluations, and the overall caseload grew by 5.3 percent. MHCADSD contracts with the Crisis Clinic to provide a 24-hour telephone crisis response line. In 2005, they responded to 92,967 calls requesting mental health information, crisis counseling and referrals to treatment.

Focus on Recovery: MHCADSD devoted considerable energy in 2005 developing its Mental Health Recovery Plan, shifting the service system from one that had focused on helping to stabilize and maintain people with mental illness to one that embraces and encourages the idea of recovery and achieving

a fuller and more independent life in the community. Recovery focuses on an individual's personal strengths, not just symptoms, and seeks age-appropriate goals for family and school life, peer supports, employment and healthy living. The Recovery Plan, detailing the goals, objectives and implementation timeline was approved by the Metropolitan King County Council.

Children's Mental Health Plan:

Lessons learned from the six-year federal Children's and Families In Common grant informed the drafting of the Children's Mental Health Plan, finalized in April 2005. A new Children's Crisis Outreach Response System was implemented, utilizing the Crisis Clinic and YMCA of Greater Seattle, to improve and enhance assistance to youth and families in crisis. Successful elements of the grant, such as Project TEAM, were continued in the new children's plan.

Criminal Justice Initiatives:

MHCADSD implemented a range of programs and services in 2003 and 2004 to help people in the criminal justice system with unmet mental health and/or substance abuse needs. The goal is to provide services that are coordinated, efficient and effective and that reduce jail time and the rate of re-offense.

Among the strongest elements of the criminal justice initiatives are the efforts to assess and screen individuals in the jail to determine treatment needs and then, via criminal justice liaisons, work



State legislators attend mental health/substance abuse forum. From left: Speaker Frank Chopp, Rep. Phyllis Kenney, Rep. Ed Murray, and Rep. Toby Nixon.

to link those clients to the community-based treatment and supportive services they need. Another exceptional element is the co-occurring disorders treatment program, where clients can receive coordinated mental health and chemical dependency services from a single provider so that both needs are addressed equally. Other programs work with Community Corrections and the local courts to provide intensive outpatient treatment services for people court-ordered into treatment, or work with King County Drug Diversion Court to coordinate services for those referred to treatment.

Supportive Housing: It was an exciting year for the development of supportive housing for homeless people with mental illness and/or chemical dependency and those coming out of psychiatric hospitals. Several projects opened in 2005 supported by CSD's Housing and Community Development and MHCADSD that provide safe housing and onsite treatment services to help very vulnerable people achieve healthier and more stable lives in the community.

- The Willows, created by Community Psychiatric Clinic, provides housing, treatment and other services for women with severe mental illness and substance abuse issues, allowing them to reunite with their children and rebuild their lives.
- Highline Village, beautiful town homes created by Highline West Seattle Mental Health Center on their campus in West Seattle, provides housing and services for 24 people, most of whom previously lived in state hospitals but who now have an opportunity for independent living in the community.
- The Morrison significantly renovated in 2005 by the Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC) created 32 permanent housing units and onsite services for people recovering from mental illness and substance abuse.
- The 1811 Eastlake, also opened by DESC in 2005, is a brand new facility serving 75 of the county's highest users of sobering services and other emergency care, providing a safe home and ready access to medical and treatment services for some of the county's most vulnerable and challenging to serve citizens.

Substance abuse services include detoxification, outpatient treatment (including opiate substitution), residential



1811 Eastlake owned by Downtown Emergency Center, offers a unique array of services to its target population of homeless chronic alcoholics.

treatment services, employment and vocational assistance, and housing assistance. A total of 10,323 people received substance abuse services in 2005, including 1,266 children and youth and 9,057 adults. The Alcohol and Drug 24-Hour Help Line fielded 21,458 calls requesting crisis response, information, and referrals to treatment.

The Emergency Services Patrol works primarily with the chronic inebriate population, providing 24-hour transportation and triage assistance for people in need on the streets.

The Dutch Shisler Sobering Support Center provides a safe place to recover from acute intoxication by alcohol or drugs. The center served 2,035 people and tallied a total of 22,525 admissions.

Access to Recovery Grant: A new substance abuse grant was implemented in 2005 to provide additional funding and open the door to treatment and recovery support services for many people across King County. A total of 766 people were able to receive treatment and recovery services, thanks to this new grant.

Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN): Another highlight was the development and implementation of the GAIN, a new evidence-based tool that is helping to standardize and improve assessments for substance abuse treatment and helping direct more effective treatment planning.

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

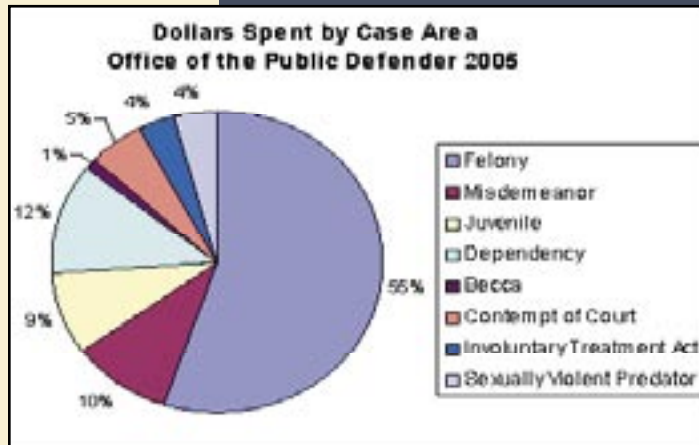
All citizens of the United States have the right to legal representation when accused of a crime or faced with the loss of personal liberty, regardless of their ability to pay. The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) is charged with the responsibility for ensuring access to fair, knowledgeable and effective legal defense for people with little or no income. OPD provides indigent defense services for all adult and juvenile felonies, civil commitments and dependencies in King County, all misdemeanors in unincorporated King County, and misdemeanor defense services for indigent residents of cities under contract to OPD.

Eligibility screenings are available five days a week at seven locations throughout King County. Through service contracts with four local, non-profit law firms employing over 200 attorneys, and an assigned counsel panel of over 60 attorneys, OPD protects the constitutional right to a qualified defense. Attorneys with the Associated Counsel for the Accused, Society of Counsel Representing Accused Persons, The Defender Association, and Northwest Defenders Association contract to provide the majority of the county's public defense legal services. OPD administers contracts, monitors caseloads and case distribution and the quality of representation. In addition, OPD manages the Expert Services Program, including psychiatric or psychological evaluations, expert witnesses, private investigation and forensic evaluations as needed and approved by the Public Defender on a case-by-case basis.

The largest number of cases handled by OPD are felonies, as shown in the chart. The number of people served does not equal the total number of cases, as some clients had charges in more than one case area. Misdemeanor cases noted are only those filed in King County District Court. Juvenile cases include juvenile felony and misdemeanors only. Becca refers to truancy, At Risk Youth (ARY) and Child in Need of Services (CHINS) cases. Contempt of Court cases include people in contempt for failing to pay child support.

2005 Public Defense Services

Case Area	# Served	Cases	Dollars Spent
Felony	9,122	10,600	\$ 17,006,206
Misdemeanor	6,207	6,510	\$ 3,079,599
Juvenile	3,685	4,701	\$ 2,718,306
Dependency	2,083	2,327	\$ 3,698,741
Becca	695	718	\$ 332,004
Contempt of Court	1,396	1,399	\$ 1,595,717
Involuntary Treatment Act	2,623	2,623	\$ 1,147,292
Sexually Violent Predator	86	86	\$ 1,262,926
Total	25,897	28,964	\$ 30,840,790



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King County

About the cover "Black Forest" - Lupita Cano is a painter and visual artist who discovered her passion for painting early in life. Lupita, a Seattle native, has Down Syndrome and her art and her story have been featured at local, state and national developmental disabilities conferences.

Lupita creates her inspired and vivid designs at the Seattle Center Artists Studio or at her home studio. She started her own small business, AE

Designs in 2001 with help from the King County DDD

supported employment program.

Since that time, Lupita has sold

art cards, prints and her original art work in retail stores in the Seattle area, at the Fremont Fair and the Ballard Art Walk, and various other shows. Her thriving mail order business has generated sales across the country and as far away as Japan, Australia and South America.

www.designsbylupita.netfirms.com/



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King County